

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A set comprising:
 - a first footwear article (1) intended for the practice of a first sport comprising :
 - a first rigid shell defining a body (2) intended to receive the foot of a first user and extending in a longitudinal direction (8),
 - a second rigid shell defining a top (4) intended to receive the leg of the user and substantially extending in an upward direction (10),
 - an articulation (6) connecting the body and the top having specific mechanical resistance characteristics,
 - a second footwear article (101) also intended for the practice of a second sport, comprising :
 - a first rigid shell defining a body (102) intended to receive the foot of a second user and extending in a longitudinal direction (108),
 - a second rigid shell defining a top (104) intended to receive the leg of the user and substantially extending in an upwards direction (110),

• an articulation (106) connecting the body and the top having specific mechanical resistance characteristics, wherein,

~~characterised in that:~~

- the first shell (2) of the first footwear article (1) is substantially identical to the first body (102) of the second footwear article (101),

- the second body (4) of the first footwear article (1) and the second body (104) of the second footwear article (101) are similar,

- the mechanical characteristics of the articulation (6) of the first footwear article (1) and the mechanical characteristics of the articulation (106) of the second footwear article (101) are substantially different in order to correspond to the physiological differences between the first and second user and/or differences between the first and second sport,

- the articulation of the first footwear article and the articulation of the second footwear article each comprise two elastically deformable members (14, 14') symmetrically arranged in relation to the upward direction (10), and

- each elastically deformable member comprises two ribs (16, 18; 116, 118; 216, 218) which are substantially inwardly curved and positioned opposite each other.

2. (original) A set according to claim 1, characterised in that the second shell (4) of the first footwear article (1) is substantially identical to the second shell (104) of the second footwear article (101).

3. (previously presented) A set according to claim 1, characterised in that for each footwear article (1; 101) the articulation (6; 106) is separate from the first shell (2; 102) and the second shell (4; 104), and the articulation (6) of the first footwear article (1) can replace the articulation (106) of the second footwear article (101) and vice versa.

4. (previously presented) A set according to claim 1, characterised in that the articulation (6; 106) of each footwear member (1; 101) permits rotation of the top in relation to the body about two axes of rotation (8, 12) which are substantially perpendicular to each other and lateral movement of the articulations in relation to the body in order to bring the axes of rotation of the articulation substantially in line with the axes of rotation of the foot in relation to the user's leg.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A set according to claim [[5]] 1, characterised in that the ribs (16, 18) of the first footwear article (1) and the ribs (116, 118) of the second footwear article (101) are made of different materials.

7. (currently amended) A set according to claim [[5]] 1, characterised in that the ribs (16, 18) of the first footwear article (1) and the ribs (116, 118) of the second footwear article (101) have different cross-sections (E, e).

8. (currently amended) A set according to claim [[5]] 1, characterised in that the two elastically deformable members (14, 14') for each footwear article have different mechanical characteristics.

9. (previously presented) A set according to claim 1, characterised in that:

- the upward direction and the longitudinal direction in each footwear article define a median plane,
- each footwear article comprises stops to limit the amplitude of rotation (α_1 , α_2) in the median plane to a value of between 50 degrees and 60 degrees.

10. (previously presented) A set according to claim 1, characterised in that each footwear article comprises stops

to restrict the amplitude of rotation (θ_1 , θ_2) along the longitudinal direction to a value of between 25 degrees and 35 degrees.

11. (previously presented) A set according to claim 1, characterised in that the amplitude of lateral movement of the articulation axis in each footwear article in relation to the body is between 5 millimetres and 15 millimetres.

12. (new) The set of claim 1, wherein,
the thickness of the ribs (16, 18) of the first footwear article (1) is different from the thickness of the ribs (116, 118) of the second footwear article (101).

13. (new) Set according to claim 1, wherein,
the mechanical characteristics of the articulation (6) of the first footwear article (1) and the mechanical characteristics of the articulation (106) of the second footwear article (101) are substantially different in order to correspond to the differences between the first sport and the second sport.

14. (new) A footwear set comprising:
a first footwear article (1) for the practice of a first sport, comprising i) a first rigid shell defining a body (2) to receive the foot of a first user and extending in a

longitudinal direction (8), ii) a second rigid shell defining a top (4) intended to receive the leg of the user and substantially extending in an upward direction (10), and iii) an articulation (6) connecting the body and the top having specific mechanical resistance characteristics; and

a second footwear article (101) intended for the practice of a second sport, comprising i) a first rigid shell defining a body (102) intended to receive the foot of a second user and extending in a longitudinal direction (108), ii) a second rigid shell defining a top (104) intended to receive the leg of the user and substantially extending in an upwards direction (110), and iii) an articulation (106) connecting the body and the top having specific mechanical resistance characteristics, wherein,

the first shell (2) of the first footwear article (1) is substantially identical to the first body (102) of the second footwear article (101),

the second body (4) of the first footwear article (1) and the second body (104) of the second footwear article (101) are similar,

mechanical characteristics of the articulation (6) of the first footwear article (1) and mechanical characteristics of the articulation (106) of the second footwear article (101) are substantially different in order to correspond to physiological

differences between the first user and the second user and differences between the first sport and the second sport,

the articulation of the first footwear article and the articulation of the second footwear article each comprise two elastically deformable members (14, 14') symmetrically arranged in relation to the upward direction (10), and

each elastically deformable member comprises two ribs (16, 18; 116, 118; 216, 218) which are substantially inwardly curved and positioned opposite each other.

15. (new) The set of claim 14, wherein,

the two elastically deformable members (14, 14') of each articulation (6) are arranged substantially symmetrically in relation to a plane (P), one member on an inner side (1a) and another member on an outer side (1b),

the two ribs comprises a front rib (16) and a rear rib (18), each rib curving with an upper limb (16a, 18a) and a lower limb (16b, 18b) and extending between a first extremity (16a₁, 16b₁, 18a₁, 18b₁) and a second extremity (16a₂, 16b₂, 18a₂, 18b₂),

the first extremities of the limbs of the front rib (16) are connected together in a front apical area (20) to permit rotation between the upper limb (16a) and the lower limb (16b),

the first extremities (18a₁, 18b₁) of the limbs of rear rib (18) are connected together in a rear apical area (22)

permitting rotation between the upper limb (18a) and the lower limb (18b), and

the second extremities (16b₂, 18b₂) of the lower limbs are secured to the body (2) and the second extremities (16a₂, 18a₂) of the upper limbs are secured to the top (4).

16. (new) The set of claim 15, wherein,

the front rib and rear rib are arranged in opposition symmetrically in relation to the upward direction so they open opposite each other in such a way that each structure 14 substantially has the shape of a deformable parallelogram. As an alternative they may be placed back to back so that the deformable member (14) takes on a substantially deformable >< shape.

17. (new) The set of claim 15, wherein,

each articulation (6) further comprises two pivots (24, 26) extending substantially in a transverse direction between the front rib (16) and the rear rib (18),

the pivots attached to the body (2) and sliding in a groove (28, 30) in the top (4),

the grooves each of oblong shape and substantially extending along the upward direction (10) between the upper extremity (28a, 30a) and the lower extremity (28b, 30b),

the pivots control the deformation of the deformable member.

18. (new) The set of claim 14, wherein,
the ribs (16, 18) of the first footwear article (1) and the ribs (116, 118) of the second footwear article (101) are made of different materials.

19. (new) The set of claim 14, wherein,
the cross-sections of the ribs (16, 18) of the first footwear article (1) are different from the cross-sections of the ribs (116, 118) of the second footwear article (101).

20. (new) The set of claim 14, wherein,
the mechanical characteristics of the two elastically deformable members (14, 14') of the first footwear article (1) are different from the mechanical characteristics of the two elastically deformable members (14, 14') of the second footwear article (101).

21. (new) The set of claim 14, wherein,
the thickness of the ribs (16, 18) of the first footwear article (1) is different from the thickness of the ribs (116, 118) of the second footwear article (101).